

Kentucky Arts Council
June 22nd, 2007
Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea
Berea, Kentucky

Members present: Todd Lowe, Everett McCorvey, Wilma Brown, Jean Dorton, Ed Lane, Phyllis Liebman, Jo Marshall, Gail Russell, Ann Schell, Retha Tarter, Randall Vaughn, James Voyles

Members absent: Zev Buffman, Dean Jones, Kelly Knight, Greg Shumate

Others present: Staff: Lori Meadows, Bob Gates, Suzanne Gray, Melissa Nesselrode, Dan Strauss

Commerce Cabinet Staff: George Ward, Secretary; Lindy Casebier, Executive Director of Arts and Cultural Heritage; Misty Judy, Legal Counsel

Guests: Mike Brooks, Actors Theatre of Louisville; Brandon Long, Paul S. Moth, Cynthia Frey, Community Arts Center, Danville; Andy Jones, Appalshop; Cecelia Wooden, Arts Kentucky

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME:

Chairman Todd Lowe called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for coming. He commended the Kentucky Arts Council staff on a wonderful reception and presentation of the Luthier Exhibit dedicated to Homer Ledford.

QUORUM:

With 12 of the 16 members in attendance, Chairman Lowe declared a quorum to be present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jean Dorton, and seconded by Jim Voyles. The motion was approved without objection.

COMMERCE CABINET REPORT:

Chairman Lowe welcomed Secretary George Ward and Lindy Casebier. Lindy noted that he felt the Luthier Exhibit and reception the evening before was a great success. Lindy also commented on the Mystery Writers' Festival in Owensboro hosted by the RiverPark Center, and commended Zev Buffman and the rest of the staff on a wonderful job. Honoree Angela Lansbury was unable to attend in person, but she did accept her award via satellite.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Review of Abstentions: Members were asked to review the abstention list and note if they had additions and/or deletions.

Grants and Awards:

Fellowship-Media Arts

Fellowship-Visual Arts

Individual Artist Professional Development Grants
Lincoln Product Development Grant
Lincoln Project Grant
Arts Build Communities Grant Program
School-Community-Arts-Parent-Partnership Grants
Folk Arts Apprenticeship Grant Program
Folk Arts Project Grant Program
Community Scholars Survey Grant Program
Community Arts Development Grants
General Operating Support I Grants
General Operating Support II Grants
Challenge Grant Program

Lori Meadows gave a brief description of each of the grant and award programs.

Lori provided a PowerPoint overview of the recent funding history for Kentucky Arts Council Operating Support grant programs. Ann Schell noted that the overview was very helpful in illustrating the funding needs.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Ann Schell and seconded by Randall Vaughn. The motion was passed without objection.

GOVERNANCE PROCESS

Approval of KAC FY08 Budget:

The KAC budget was previously comprised of two budgetary units: one for the Craft Marketing Program, and the other for the rest of the agency. Staff has been working with Christina Gordley with the Office of the State Budget Director to design budget units which would better reflect the work and needs of the agency. The new units are: Administrative/Personnel, Support Grants, Programs and Education, and Arts Marketing. By re-categorizing the budget units it will be possible to develop more detailed reports, eliminate duplication within the agency, and effectively plan for future fiscal year budgets.

In response to a question by Secretary George Ward, Lori informed the board that the Kentucky Arts Council's allocation from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is based in part on application scores, and the KAC scored very well. The NEA has unfortunately reduced overall funding for the Basic State Grant, but additional money has been allotted to mandated programs. Additional mandated programs mean more required projects for the KAC a listing of the mandated projects was provided by Lori in the FY08 budget handout.

Phyllis Liebman asked Lori if the FY08 budget document included in the board materials would be part of the packet prepared for the general assembly budget hearing. Lori stated that the handout is an internal agency document; however, a copy of the agency Annual Report is provided to the legislators.

A motion to approve the FY08 Budget with the possibility of minor changes was made by Jean Dorton, seconded by Ed Lane. The motion was passed without objection.

Advocacy Update:

Chairman Lowe asked Jean Dorton, Chair of the Advocacy Committee, to go over the Advocacy reports prepared by the Kentucky Arts Council staff. Jean noted that action with the legislators needs to be taken now, and not to wait for the general assembly to meet. She presented an overview of the information given to each board member, which included a listing of operating support grants awarded in each congressional district. Jean asked each board member to call the organizations in their congressional districts which received operating support funding to request that they invite their local legislators to make courtesy speeches, appearances, or simply invite them to openings, festivals, events or shows. Jean noted that those board members who are in the same congressional district might want to divide up their organizations so efforts are not duplicated.

The following discussion included the following points:

Retha Tarter expressed concern that asking politicians to speak at an arts event would then make the event/show a political event.

James Voyles suggested as an alternative, to ask a board member to do the opening speech, but invite the local legislator as their special guest and acknowledge the legislator in the board member's opening remarks.

Jim Voyles would like to continue inviting legislators to Kentucky Arts Council events/receptions

Gail Russell suggested having a legislative reception the night before an event to honor them for their support of the arts

Chairman Lowe informed the board that Arts Kentucky will help with advocacy efforts on behalf of the board, and that Cecelia Wooden will train the board to do a "Virtual Arts Rally".

Chairman Lowe asked the board to consider the following issues:

What is the target of the advocacy efforts?

What is the purpose of the additional funding?

Will the request to the general assembly ask for funding for a specific project or for overall funding for the Kentucky Arts Council?

Jean Dorton will work with the staff to develop a one-page document stating how additional funding for the KAC will help the state overall.

Lindy Casebier stated that he would like to have constituents more involved in advocacy issues, including speaking with their local legislators about the need for additional funding

Ann Schell asked if there has ever been a letter to the legislators about what funding their districts have received from the Kentucky Arts Council. Lori responded that the KAC has been preparing these reports for the legislators over the last eighteen months.

Chairman Lowe brought the discussion to a close, noting that the board would return to the issue at the end of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Lori provided information on the following issues and events:

Since the last board meeting the KAC has conducted 18 panels, processing 448 grant and adjudicated applications. 182 grant applications were awarded funding totaling \$2,325,692; 54 artists were approved for participation in the various adjudicated programs

Poet Laureate Induction and KY Writer's Day Ceremony

Dedication ceremony of the sculptures *Nexus* and *Now Get*

Kentucky Arts Council staff retreat

Rude Osolnik Award Sarah Frederick

Workshop Weekend

University of Kentucky Healthcare —Requested a list of artists from the Kentucky Arts Council for the exhibit

Kentucky Visions—An extension of the Legislative Exhibit

Long Range Plan—The Kentucky Arts Council will begin having Focus Groups and Public Input Meetings beginning in October throughout the state.

KASOL—The Kentucky Arts Services OnLine electronic application process grants services has been through its first cycle. Response to the new service has been positive from the field and staff. There are a few glitches that the KAC is currently working on to resolve.

The General Operating Support I & II and Challenge grant programs have been combined and will now be called "The Kentucky Arts Partnership Grant"

The American Masterpieces Luthier Exhibit has been very well received; Lori thanked Bob Gates, Mark Brown and Sarah Milligan for their hard work putting this exhibit together.

Upcoming events: Artist Training and Teacher Professional Development Training in Faubush, Kentucky; Performing Arts Exchange, Louisville; Folklife Festival, Frankfort

Staffing: The Kentucky Arts Council is currently working on hiring for the vacant Branch Manager's position, which has been adjusted to work across the agency. Amber Luallen resigned as the Individual Artist, Community Arts Director.

James Voyles and the board all expressed regret over the announcement of Amber's resignation, and asked that thanks for her work with the Kentucky Arts Council be reflected in the minutes.

REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lori provided a brief summary of the four monitoring reports submitted since the last board meeting:

- 2.3 Financial Planning/Budgeting
- 2.6 Grant Panels Composition
- 2.7 Grant Panels/Process
- 2.8 Emergency Interim Grants

A motion to approve the Review of the Executive Director was made by Phyllis Liebman and seconded by Jean Dorton. The motion passed without objection.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

Appointment of Committee:

Randall Vaughn will chair the nominating committee

Appointment of Advocacy Committee:

Jean Dorton was reappointed as the chair of the Advocacy Committee

Appointment of Committee to recommend Governor's Awards in the Arts:

Lori discussed a proposed change for the Governor's Awards in the Arts ceremony. The ceremony currently takes place in February of each year, the day before the KAC Legislative Day. The suggestion has been made to move the awards ceremony to October, which is National Arts and Humanities month. This change will provide an additional opportunity to host an event of interest to legislators, and the timing will enable the awards to be presented in the same year they are being awarded. After general discussion, the board agreed that a change to an October ceremony would be beneficial, and that the 2007-2008 Governor's Awards in the Arts would be presented in October 2008.

No motion was needed.

BOARD DISCUSSION ON ENDS:

Chairman Lowe opened the discussion to update the Kentucky Arts Council Ends Statements. Following discussion, the following changes were made:

- 1.0 – Global Ends Statement: The Mission of the Kentucky Arts Council is to Create Opportunities for the People of Kentucky to Value, Participate in, and Benefit from the Arts.
- 1.1 – Kentuckians Value the Role of Arts in Society
- 1.2 – Lifelong Education in the Arts is Encouraged
- 1.3 – Statewide delivery of Arts Programs & Services is Provided
- 1.4 – Artists Live & Work in a Supportive Environment
- 1.5 – Public Policy Supports the Arts in Kentucky

In addition, it was agreed that with the exception of the global ends statement the ends would not be prioritized.

BOARD SCHEDULE

September 14, 2007 (Frankfort)

December 14, 2007 (Louisville)

March 2008 (Frankfort)

June 2008—Jean Dorton would like to host the June 2008 board meeting in Morehead Kentucky. Chairman Lowe asked for commitment from the board that they would be able to attend in Morehead. The board said they could come.

Chairman Lowe requested that any agenda items the board would like to cover at the September board meeting please be sent to either Lori or himself.

Chairman Lowe also informed the board that due to the high interest by board members in wanting to attend the December 2008 National Assembly of State Arts Agencies Conference in Baltimore, it would be appreciated if board members could pay their own expenses, and the KAC pay for the registration fee.

BOARD MEETING EVALUATION

At Chairman Lowe's request, Everett McCorvey led the board meeting evaluation discussion. The following comments were made:

Wilma commented that she appreciated the opportunity to have input on various areas:

Retha appreciated the opportunity to come and meet at the Artisan Center. She also thanked Chairman Lowe for allowing full input from the board members
Jim Voyles thanked the KAC staff for the advocacy packets that were prepared.
Randall expressed appreciation, which was reiterated by other board members, for the FY08 draft budget prepared by the KAC staff

Lori thanked staff members Suzanne Gray, Maraskeshia Smith, Dan Strauss and Melissa Nesselrode for their help in preparing the handouts for the meeting.

Chairman Lowe thanked Secretary Ward, the staff and board for their attendance and wonderful exhibit/reception Thursday evening and for the meeting today.

Adjournment